

Project Abstract

Project Title: Interprofessional Collaboration to Improve Care of Persons with Multiple Chronic Conditions (MCC)

Applicant Org: B. F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions, Georgia State University

Address: P.O. Box 4019 Atlanta, GA 30302-4019

Project Director: Margaret F. Moloney, PhD, RN, ANP-CS

Project Director Phone Numbers (O) 404-413-1170, (Fax) 404-413-1203

E-mail address: mmoloney@gsu.edu

Organizational Website Address: <http://snhp.gsu.edu/>

Statutory Purpose Request: *To substantially benefit underserved populations and this project will benefit the HRSA designated underserved populations of Georgia. Both clinical sites that the IPC student teams will use have patients/residents who are members of underserved groups. In addition, many of our advanced practice nurses (APN) students and graduates practice in underserved areas of Georgia.*

The organization and delivery of healthcare services in the United States (US) is becoming more challenging and complex, frequently resulting in fragmented care. Critical factors, such as our aging population and an increase in chronic illnesses, require multiple disciplines to be participants in the delivery of care. Approximately 60 million Americans have multiple morbidities and this is projected to increase to 81 million by 2020 with a cost of 75% of the \$2 trillion the US spends annually on health care (IOM, 2012). Health care professionals do not know instinctively how to best guide care between disciplines and there is a lack of communication, collaboration and coordination among various health care professionals. There is a need for educational paradigms that provide health care professionals with advanced skills so that graduates can form collaborative teams that value and respect one another.

Georgia State University School of Nursing (SON), in partnership with the Divisions of Nutrition, Physical Therapy, Respiratory Therapy and the School of Social Work, proposes to enhance the education of APN by integrating interprofessional theory, principles, and practice into the curriculum. Specifically we will develop a specific didactic course that includes clinical experiences (45 clinical hours) with interprofessional student teams that will gain experience with persons with MCC. This application will address the seminal essential of Master's education of "interprofessional collaboration for improving patient and population health outcomes" (AACN, 2011, p. 22) and the recommendation from the Institute of Medicine (IOM) expert panel that all health care professionals be able to work effectively in interdisciplinary teams (IOM, 2003). The following objectives will be the focus of the interprofessional collaboration curriculum: 1) Prepare up to 10 interprofessional faculty who will design, implement and evaluate interprofessional curricula (didactic and clinical) using principles of sound educational practice in order to prepare students to be integral members of a collaborative advanced-practice-ready workforce, 2) Implement an enhanced APN curriculum enrolling 60 students over three years that fosters the development of core competencies for interprofessional collaborative (IPC) practice through a dedicated course that integrates cultural competency with a strong IPC clinical component; revise objectives for four clinical courses to integrate IPC competencies and a focus on care of adults with MCC and their families throughout the curriculum, and 3) Evaluate the enhanced APN curriculum for effectiveness in fostering core IPC competencies, integrating technology, and using evidence-based practice with persons who have MCC and their families.